

Bontoc language

Bontoc (Bontok) /bɒn ˈtɒk/^[3] (also called **Finallig**) is the native language of the indigenous Bontoc people of the Mountain Province, in the northern part of the Philippines.

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Dialects

Ethnologue reports the following locations for each of the 5 Bontok languages. Speaker populations from the 2007 census, as quoted in *Ethnologue*.

- **Central Bontok**: spoken in Bontoc municipality, Mountain Province (in Bontoc ili, Caluttit, Dalican, Guinaang, Ma-init, Maligcong, Samoki, and Tocucan villages). 19,600 speakers.
- **Eastern Bontok**: spoken in Barlig municipality, eastern Mountain Province (in Barlig, Kadaklan, and Lias villages). 6,170 speakers.
- **Northern Bontok**: spoken in Sadanga municipality, northern Mountain Province (in Anabel, Bekigan, Belwang, Betwagan, Demang, Sacasacan, Saclit, and the municipal center of Sadanga Poblacion). There are also some speakers in southern Kalinga Province. 9,700 speakers.
- **Southern Bontok**: spoken to the south of Bontoc municipality in Talubin, Bayyo, and Can-eo towns. 2,760 speakers.
- **Southwestern Bontok**: spoken in Bontoc municipality, Mountain Province (in Alab, Balili, Gonogon, and villages in the Chico River valley, southwest of the municipal capital Bontoc, along Halsema Highway). 2,470 speakers.

Phonology

| Bontoc | |
|-----------------|--|
| Finallig | |
| Native to | Philippines |
| Region | Mountain Province |
| Native speakers | 41,000 (2007 census) ^{[1]} |
| Language family | Austronesian <ul style="list-style-type: none">Malayo-Polynesian<ul style="list-style-type: none">Philippine<ul style="list-style-type: none">Northern Luzon<ul style="list-style-type: none">Meso-Cordilleran<ul style="list-style-type: none">Central Cordilleran<ul style="list-style-type: none">Nuclear Cordilleran<ul style="list-style-type: none">Bontok–Kankanay<ul style="list-style-type: none">Bontoc |
| Language codes | |
| ISO 639-3 | bnc – inclusive code <div>Individual codes:</div> <div>1bk – Central Bontok</div> <div>ebk – Eastern Bontok</div> <div>rbk – Northern Bontok</div> <div>obk – Southern Bontok</div> <div>vbk – Southwestern Bontok</div> |
| Glottolog | bont1247 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/bont1247) ^{[2]} |
| | |

Consonant phonemes^[4]

| | <u>Labial</u> | <u>Alveolar</u> | <u>Palatal</u> | <u>Velar</u> | <u>Glottal</u> |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| <u>Nasal</u> | <u>m</u> | <u>n</u> | | <u>ŋ</u> | |
| <u>Plosive</u> | <u>p b</u> | <u>t d</u> | | <u>k g</u> | <u>ʔ</u> |
| <u>Fricative</u> | | <u>s</u> | | | |
| <u>Rhotic</u> | | <u>ɾ ~ ɽ</u> | | | |
| <u>Approximant</u> | | | <u>j</u> | | |



Area where Bontoc is spoken according to Ethnologue

- The archiphoneme /r/ has [ɭ], [ɭ̥], and [ɭ̥̊] as its allophones.^[4] The allophone [ɭ̥̊] occurs word-initially, adjacent to /i/, as the second member of a consonant cluster consisting of a coronal consonant and /r/, and as the second member of any consonant cluster preceded by /i/. [ɭ̥] occurs in free variation with [ɭ̥̊] word-initially, but otherwise occurs in complementary distribution with it. [ɭ̥̊] occurs in free variation with [ɭ̥] and [ɭ̥̊] word-initially, and with [ɭ̥] elsewhere.
- The plosives /t/, /g/, /b/, and /d/ have, respectively, [t̪] (representing an interdental consonant), [k^h], [f], and [t̪s] as their syllable-initial allophones.^[4]
- The voiced stop /b/ also has [b̥] and [v] as its allophones.^[4] Both of these allophones occur as the first member of a geminate cluster. They are in free variation.
- The approximant /j/ has one allophone: [y]. [y] occurs after /o/.^[4]

Vowel phonemes^[4]

| | <u>Front</u> | <u>Back</u> |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| <u>High</u> | <u>i</u> | |
| <u>Mid</u> | <u>e</u> | <u>o</u> |
| <u>Close</u> | <u>a</u> | |

/e/ becomes a slightly centralized [ɐ] when in a syllable whose coda is /k/.^[4] When in the nucleus, /a/ and /o/ are slightly raised and /i/ is lowered.^[4]

There are two degrees of stress in Bontoc: primary and secondary. Primary stress is phonemic and secondary stress is predictable. Both types are right-oriented and occur on one of the last three syllables. Stress's effects include higher pitch, louder volume, and lengthening of the syllable nucleus, though these are all subject to certain rules pertaining to word prosody.^[4]

Example text

The Lord's Prayer

| English | Bontoc ^[5] |
|--|---|
| Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. | Ama id chaya machad-ayaw nan ngachanmo. Omali nan en-ap-apowam. Maangnen nan nemnemmo isnan lofong ay kag id chaya. Ichowam nan kanenmi isnan kawakawakas. Pakawanem nan fasolmi, tay pinakawanmi akhes nan finmasol ken chakami. Ad-im ogkhayen chakami isnan maawisanmi ay enfasol, mod-i ket isas alakam chakami isnan ngaag. |

References

1. Bontoc (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/bnc/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
Central Bontok (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/lbk/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
Eastern Bontok (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/ebk/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
Northern Bontok (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/rbk/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
Southern Bontok (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/obk/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
Southwestern Bontok (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/vbk/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Bontok" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/bont1247>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Laurie Bauer, 2007, *The Linguistics Student's Handbook*, Edinburgh
4. Reid, Lawrence A. (1963). "The Phonology of Central Bontoc" (<http://www.jps.auckland.ac.nz/document/?wid=3218>). *The Journal of the Polynesian Society*. **72** (1): 21–26.
5. *Nan Kalin Apo Dios*, International Bible Society, 1992

External links

- Talking Dictionary of Khinina-ang Bontok (<http://htq.minpaku.ac.jp/databases/bontok/index.jsp>) - online Bontoc Dictionary based on the speech community of Guina-ang, compiled by Lawrence A. Reid

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